Developmental Strategies for Global Poverty Alleviation

**A. Description of course:** The objective of this intense course is to offer in-depth understanding of issues related to poverty in developing countries. In discussions on the roles of governments, international agencies, donors, NGOs and private institutions, emphasis will be on developmental strategies and approaches to poverty alleviation. Study of social entrepreneurship and private sector participation (including for-profit businesses as well as non-profit institutions) will receive special attention. Theoretical classroom presentations will be supplemented with case studies to gain a clear understanding of challenges, obstacles, constraints and solutions. Grading will be based on class participation and case study reports.

**B. Topics:**

1. Overview on Global Poverty
   a) How is poverty defined?
   b) Global statistics on poverty levels
   c) Why does poverty exist? – Issues of governance, resources, social conditions, etc.
   d) Trends in wealth creation and poverty

2. Developmental Goals
   a) National goals and priorities
   b) Goals set by international agencies
   c) Millennium goals

3. Poverty Strategies
   a) Sustainable development
   b) Target-based strategies
   c) Technology driven strategies

4. Poverty alleviation approaches and considerations
   a) Top-down approach (governments and international agencies)
   b) Bottom-up approach (grass-root interventions by NGOs)
   c) Specific interventions (HIV/AIDS, etc.)
   d) Social entrepreneurships
   e) Issues of sustainability, scalability, cost effectiveness, and other considerations
   f) Myths and realities

5. Three dimensions of poverty reduction strategy
   a) Delivery of services – education, vocational training, healthcare, support services
   b) Community development – infrastructure, water, sanitation, housing
   c) Wealth and income generation – economic activity and job creation, small scale local businesses

6. How do the following players function?
   a) Government at various levels
   b) International agencies
   c) Donors
   d) NGOs
   e) Social entrepreneurs
   f) Private sector
6. Financing poverty projects
   a) Government budgets for various services – by country comparison
   b) Foreign aid
   c) Donor contributions
   d) NGO operations

7. Impact analysis
   a) Examine 2-3 project reports of WB or other published results
   b) Cost-benefit analysis based on available data on government projects
   c) Are the present approaches bringing down poverty fast enough?

8. Participation of the private sector
   a) Types of private sector involvement – philanthropy versus business
   b) Social entrepreneurship activities
   c) Development versus profit-motive
   d) Concerns, expectations and safeguards
   e) Creating incentives for private sector involvement
   f) Developmental impact from private sector participation

9. Case studies: Three different poverty situations (described for three different areas) will be given to students. They will be asked to analyze each situation, develop goals and implementation approaches, and estimate their costs.

Fall 2008
There is no required text. This course is based on case studies in addition to covering subject material from text books, articles and position papers. I am preparing the cases and a complete reading list in the coming months. Here below is a hurried list as requested.

Depending on the topic, I plan to refer students to specific areas from various sources. The list below is part of what I am working with, and not what is required of students to read in their totality.

**Course Elective: Development Strategy to Address Poverty**

**World Bank Publications:**

   by Christopher D. Gerrard

2. A Strategy for Development  
   by Nicholas Stern

3. A Chance to Learn: Knowledge and Finance for Education in Sub-Sahara Africa  
   March 2001

4. A Sourcebook of HIV/AIDS Prevention Programs  
   by Alexandria Valerio

5. Achieving Universal Primary Education by 2015: A Chance for Every Child  
   by Barbara Bruns, Alain Mingat, Ramahatra Rakotomalala

   by Uma Lele

7. A Market-Oriented Strategy for Small and Medium Scale Enterprises  
   by Kristin Hallberg

   by Orlando J. Sacay, Joselito Gallardo, Bikki Randhawa

9. Accounting for Infrastructure Regulation  
   by Eric Groom

10. Impact Evaluation of Rural Poverty Programs in India  
    by Howard Nial White


**Other Publications:**


